

# Calculating Sinuosity

These calculations refer to 1 field method - **Slope & Bearing**

GIVEN:

**UpstreamTransect** (i.e. A1,A2,A3,A4....K0)

**SegmentLength** (distance between sighter and sightee; (DT on spreadsheet)

**Bearing** (degrees)

1. For each UpStreamTransect, associate a SegmentLength and Bearing.
2. Convert units on Bearing from degrees to radians; call it theta ( $\theta$ ).
3. Calculate **Northing** vector for each UpstreamTransect. This is [SegmentLength x (Cos $\theta$ )]
4. Calculate **Easting** vector for each Upstream Transect. This is [SegmentLength x (Sin $\theta$ )].
5. Calculate **CrowFlyDistance This takes 3 steps**
  - a. Sum all Northing vectors, then square the sum.
  - b. Sum all Easting vectors, then square the sum.
  - c. Square root of (result from a + result from b)
6. Calculate the **MeanderDistance**. This is the sum of all **SegmentLengths**

REPORT:

**Sinuosity** = MeanderDistance/CrowFlyDistance

Metric	SourceFile	Operation
Sinuosity	SlopeAndBearing	Divide field-measured meander length of the site by the straight distance between top and bottom (determined with trigonometry).